

GRANTEE: Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council

ADDRESS: 607 West Main
Marshall, MN 56258

AMOUNT: 3,000,000

DURATION: 2 years

POPULATION SERVED: 300 nurses and laboratory technologists, training both incumbent workers and unemployed persons in rural out-state Minnesota. Unemployed persons will include dislocated workers, economically disadvantaged workers, and recent high school graduates.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The goals of this project are to close the healthcare skill shortage gap (with a focus on nursing and laboratory technology), and lessen the reliance on foreign workers. Training will be provided through a variety of distance learning tools, including interactive television, Internet-based courses, and CD-ROM, as well as traditional teaching methods. These distance education methods will bring educational opportunities to the students, and minimize the amount of time spent commuting to classes. The project will utilize a nursing career ladder that both leads up to and builds upon the RN designation.

KEY PARTICIPANTS: 10 out-state workforce service areas, the Minnesota State College and University system and healthcare facilities throughout the region.

MEDIA CONTACT: Juanita Lauritsen, 507-537-6987